

REMARKS

Status Summary

Claims 5-9 and 11-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 5-9 and 11-14 presently stand rejected. No new claims are added by the present amendment. Therefore, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 5-9 and 11-14 will be pending.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 5-9 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over information described in the Background section of the instant application in view of French Patent No. 2,627,880 to Brisson (hereinafter, "Brisson"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 5 as amended recites a flat rectangularly shaped memory card having a first group of rectangularly shaped recesses, each recess in the first group containing an electrical contact at the bottom of the recess, where the first group of recesses with contacts are compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a first type of memory card receptacle. The card has a second group of one or more recesses, each recess in the second group having one or more electrical contacts, where the first and second groups of recesses and contacts together are compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a second type of memory card receptacle. Support for the amendment to claim 5 may be found, for example, in Figures 1 through 3 of the instant application.

For example, the first group of recesses and contacts may form an MMC card interface, while the first and second groups of recesses and contacts together form an SD card interface. In other words, when the memory card is inserted into one type of memory card receptacle, the first group of recesses and contacts is used, and when the memory card is inserted into another type of memory card receptacle, the first group of recesses and contacts is used along with the second group of recesses and contacts. Thus, the first group of recesses and contacts is shared between the two types of memory card receptacles.

There is no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion in the Background section of the present specification or in Brisson of a memory card with a first group of recesses and electrical contacts that is compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a first type of memory card receptacle, where the first and second groups of recesses and contacts together are compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a second type of memory card receptacle. The Background section of the present specification discloses only a conventional MMC card which includes electrical contacts that are only compatible with the MMC standard. There is no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion of a memory card with a first group of recesses and electrical contacts that is compatible with and insertable into a first type of memory card receptacle where the first and second groups of recesses and electrical contacts are together compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a second type of memory card receptacle.

Brisson likewise fails to disclose a memory card with a first group of recesses and contacts that is compatible with and insertable into a first type of memory card receptacle where the first group and second group of recesses and electrical contacts are together compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with contacts of a second type of memory card receptacle. In contrast, Brisson teaches a card **10** with multiple contact groups (**A1**, **A2**, **A3**, and **A4**) to implement different functions, where each contact group is individually electrically connectable with contacts of a particular memory card receptacle. The contact group used depends upon the orientation of the card as it is inserted into a reader (See English translation of Brisson (attached hereto), page 1, lines 21-29). Figure 1 of Brisson illustrates a card which can be inserted into a reader in 4 different orientations, the combinations including inserting the card face up or face down (i.e., rotated 180 degrees around an axis through the length or width of the card) and inserting the card in the forward or backward direction (i.e., rotated 180 degrees around an axis through the thickness of the card). Depending on the orientation of the card, only one set of the four possible sets of contacts will be utilized by the reader. (See English translation of Brisson, page 1, line 30 – page 2, line 1.)

Thus, Brisson fails to teach or suggest a first group of recesses and contacts that is compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with one type of memory card receptacle and a second group of recesses and contacts that together with the first group of recesses and contacts to are compatible with and simultaneously electrically connectable with a second type of memory card receptacle, as recited in claim 5.

Independent claim 7 recites a memory card with electrical contacts located in recesses formed in a row along one of the card edges, positioned in a pattern according to a multi-media card (MMC) standard, along with an additional recess also having an electrical contact. Claim 7 has been amended to recite that the contacts positioned according to the MMC standard and the additional contact together are positioned in a pattern according to a memory card standard different from the MCC standard. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, in Figure 3 and on page 2, lines 1-12 of the instant application.

Although Brisson states that the contacts could be placed on the chip according to various standards (See English translation of Brisson, page 6, lines 15-23), Brisson does not teach or suggest one or more contacts that are positioned in a pattern which conforms to more than one standard, i.e., both the MMC standard and a non-MMC standard, as recited in claim 7. On the contrary, Brisson states exactly the opposite: Brisson specifically states that the orientation of insertion of the card will choose between one set of contacts and another. (See English translation of Brisson, page 6, lines 2-6.) Brisson's only figure, Figure 1, shows separate sets of contacts deliberately positioned as far away from each other as possible: on opposite corners of one side of the card, on opposite sides of the card, or both.

Independent claims 8, 9, 12, and 14 as amended similarly recite that at least one contact (or portion of a means for contacting the memory card) is used to connect with more than one type of receptacle or device:

- Independent claim 8 recites a memory card with a contact structure for use with first and second electronic devices, where the first and second devices

simultaneously electrically connect with different numbers of contacts and where at least one contact of the contact structure is used by both the first and second electronic devices.

- Independent claim 9 recites a memory card including means for contacting the memory card in order to transfer signals between the memory card and an electronic device, the means configured to make contact with a first or second device, each device compatible for use with a memory card having a representative electrical contact structural format different from the other. At least a portion of the means for contacting is used for making contact with the first device, the same portion being used for making contact with the second device.
- Independent claim 12 recites a memory card comprising a contact structure compatible with both a first card format and a second card format, each format requiring simultaneous electrical connection with a different number of contacts, where a card of the first format is not capable of being accepted by a device designed to accept a card of the second format, and where at least one contact of the contact structure is used both by a device designed to accept a card of the first format and a device designed to accept a card of the second format.
- Independent claim 14 recites a memory card having a card body with a contact structure having multiple contacts for providing simultaneous electrical connections to a receptacle, the contact structure being compatible with both MMC card receptacles and SD card receptacles, where at least one contact of

the contact structure is used by the MMC card receptacle and also by the SD card receptacle.

As stated above, Brisson fails to teach or even suggest a plurality of contacts forming a contact structure for use in different devices using different numbers of contacts, where at least one contact of the contact structure (or a same portion of the means for contacting) is used by both devices. On the contrary, Brisson teaches that rotating a card along any of its axis will present a completely different set of contacts to the reader, and that this is the purpose of the design. (See English translation of Brisson, page 4, lines 17-27.) In other words, Brisson teaches away from using at least one contact, or a same portion of a contact structure, for two different types of connections, i.e., to be used when connecting with either of two different types of memory card receptacles, or to be part of two different patterns of electrical contacts, or to be used by electronic devices using different numbers of electrical contacts, or to make contact with both a device designed to accept a card of a first format and a device designed to accept a card of a second format.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 5-9 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over information described in the Background section of the instant application in light of Brisson be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Serial No.: 10/639,051

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

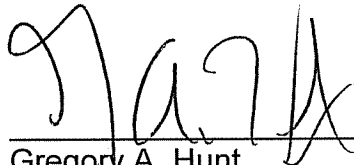
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$1,110.00 in connection with the filing of this correspondence, any deficiencies of payment, or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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GAH/KJK/trb

ENGLISH MACHINE TRANSLATION OF BRISSON

Paragraphs referenced by (page, line#) in the original French application.

(1:1) The present invention relates cards containing integrated-circuit, generally known as smart cards.

(1:4) The rapid development of applications of these cards for use for the general public that we may soon face the problem of multiple cards bulky portfolio users who must have a card for this, a card to that if they want to qualify for services providers increasingly will not want to provide that through these cards.

(1:13) Rather than move towards the most natural is to increase the complexity of integrated circuits-domestic card, to get universal cards very capable of performing various functions for different applications, this invention offers a simple way to reduce the number of cards required for a single user to several different uses.

(1:21) According to the invention, it is proposed to make smart cards each with multiple chips integrated circuit-placed contacts with their access to areas corresponding to a standard card, each chip-integrated circuit for a function determined to card and the choice of the function to be implemented is determined by the direction of orientation of the card when introduced into a card reader.

(1:30) In a first alternative view that the readers of progress, on all cards are identical regardless of the planned application and can read cards which contacts are a definite position in the card. The contacts of different chips will be placed in this position on the upper surface and the underside of the card, and each of these surfaces can choose two positions contacts access depending on the direction that we give card.

(2:9) In another variant of realization is considered players that are specific to a particular application, they can read cards whose contacts have access to specific positions of the intended application, and in this case, place on the same card chips to several positions corresponding to these different possibilities readers.

(2:16) Specifically, it is expected that the card has at least two chips placed diagonally opposite positions on the same side of the card so that they can card to a U-turn around a central axis perpendicular to the surface of the card, contacts access the second bullet was found exactly where contacts were previously accessible from the first.

(2:24) It is also possible that the card has at least two chips placed each on a different face of the card so that they can card to a U-turn around an axis of symmetry in the layout and perpendicular to one edge of the card, contacts access the second bullet was found exactly where contacts were previously accessible from the first.

(2:32) Achieving optimal correspond to a card with four rectangular circuit chips corresponding to four different functions to be performed, each chip is placed in one of the four corners of the card, so that regardless of inserting the card, there is always a chip with its contacts in proper position for insertion. This means in practice that there will be

two diagonally opposite chips on one side of the card and two other bullets, also diagonally opposite, but on the other diagonal, on the other side of the card.

(3:9) Other features and benefits of the invention will appear from reading the description which follows and is made in reference to the drawings in which the single figure represents a preferred embodiment of the invention.

(3:15) Of the figure, the reference 10 generally designates a smart card format classical type "credit card" having a rectangular area five inches wide for about seven to eight centimeters in length about having a thickness of 1 2 millimeters.

(3:21) The upper figure represents the card for a first side might be called upper surface for example, and the lower part represents the other side we therefore call underside.

(3:25) The card contains four chips integrated-circuit contacts with the corresponding access. Each chip is positioned in one of the four corners of the card. It is housed in a cavity formed in the corresponding corner.

(3:30) The assembly of the chip in the card can be a montage of classic form a micro composed of a chip on his contacts and access to an insulator coating (epoxy) then put this in micro cavity and heat the whole way to weld the resin coating of micro with the plastic from the bottom of the cavity.

(4:2) For example, the first chip is incorporated in a 12 micro housed in a cavity 13 in the upper left corner of the upper surface of the card.

(4:5) The second chip is incorporated in a 14 micro housed in a cavity 15 in the lower right corner of the upper surface of the card at a distance from the right edge BD and BI lower edge of the card is the same distance as the Distance from the cavity 13 to edge BG and BS at the upper edge of the card.

(4:11) In this way, making a turn the card around an axis perpendicular to the surface of the card, you can find the cavity 15 and therefore the micro 14 and contacts to reach exactly the position top left where the cavity was 13 and micro 12.

(4:17) Thus, we can introduce the card into a card reader, in a sense that such contacts access micro 12 is connected to the reader, in which case the chip is contained in the micro 12 that will work, and specifically that will work for the specific application for which it is planned. But if we make a U-turn to the card around a symmetry axis perpendicular to the surface of the card, we can introduce the card so that the micro 14 connects the reader to run another application.

(4:28) For the user finds it is expected that preference entries are made on the card to correlate the effect of introducing the card with the application that the user wants to do. For example, the figure shows that you can write on the card an arrow indicating the direction of introduction for the implementation of an application by the micro A1 12, A1

inscription placed next to this arrow and the direction of the arrow representing the direction of the top characters. Conversely, another arrow is designed to show the sense of inclusion for the implementation of an application A2. The card must be returned so that the registration A2 becomes readable and it is only then that the arrow shows the direction of inserting the card into the reader.

(5:9) Preferably, it is expected that the underside of 10 card also includes cavities for housing chips for other applications yet. These cavities are drawn dotted on the upper part of figure they are only visible on the underside and are designated by references 17 and 19.

(5:16) On the lower figure, representing the underside of the card cavities 17 and 19 are visible and it is contrary to the holes 13 and 15 which are represented by dots.

(5:20) The cavity contains a 17 micro 16 with a chip for an application A3. The meaning of integration for the implementation of this application A3 is designed by an arrow next to the inscription A3, the direction of the arrow corresponding again in the sense in which you can read the inscription.

(5:26) In the same way, the cavity 19 contains a micro 18 with a chip-integrated circuit for an A4. The corresponding sense of inclusion is still indicated by an arrow next to the relevant entry, the direction of the arrow at the top for playing characters of the registration of the application A4.

(5:33) The position of cavities 17 and 19 is the same compared to the edges of the bottom of the card the position of cavities 13 and 15 compared to the edges of the upper surface of the card.

(6:2) In this way the card can be inserted into a card reader in four different ways and each time a chip is properly connected and allow the implementation of the application that goes with it.

(6:7) For example we can make cards containing a micro payment for telephone communications, a micro for the payment of tolls on highways, a micro to contain personal administrative information (card gray vehicle's license number drive, etc.). and a micro to contain health information (blood type, etc.).

(6:15) In a variant of realization, we can predict that applications are all different ways of card readers of various types and standards position contacts access to these different players are not the same. In this case, the different chips would be placed on the card at positions corresponding to those standards. This can possibly accommodate more than four chips on the card.

CLAIMS

1. Smart card, characterized in that it contains several chips integrated circuit-placed

contacts with their access to areas corresponding to a standard card, each chip-integrated circuit for a clearly defined function of card and the choice of the function to be implemented is determined by the direction of orientation of the card when introduced into a card reader.

2. Smart card according to claim 1, characterized in that it includes at least two chips placed diagonally opposite positions on the same side of the card so that they can card to a U-turn around ' a central axis perpendicular to the surface of the card, contacts access the second bullet was found exactly where contacts were previously accessible from the first.

3. Smart card according to claim 1, characterized in that it includes at least two chips placed each on a different face of the card so that they can to card a U-turn around an axis symmetry in the layout and perpendicular to one edge of the card, contacts access the second bullet was found exactly where contacts were previously accessible from the first.

4. Smart card according to claim 1, characterized in that it includes four chips integrated-circuit two of which are diagonally opposite on a first side of the card and the other two diagonally opposite, but on the other diagonal, on a second front of the card.

5. Smart card according to claim, characterized in that it bears inscriptions associated with applications which are planned for the various chips on the card, and arrows indicating the direction of integration for each application, meaning the jib correlated with a sense of reading the inscriptions.

Abstract (from Delphion)

The card contains multiple integrated circuit chips positioned so their access contacts at locations correspond to a standard position on the card, each integrated circuit corresponding to a fixed function for the card. The choice of the function to be activated is determined by the orientation of the card during its insertion into the card reader. The integrated circuit chips are placed diagonally opposite in the card so that a half turn of the card places the contacts of one or the other of the circuits under the reader. The card has arrows marked on the surface to indicate the direction of insertion, with descriptive writing in a direction corresponding to the appropriate arrow. **Advantage** - Allows single card to serve multiple functions, reducing number of separate cards which need be carried.